POLICY: PRE-ENTRANCE DRUG SCREENING

It is the Policy of the Nursing Program at the University of Pittsburgh at Titusville to enforce the Drug-Free Workplace/Drug-Free Schools policy of the University of Pittsburgh by monitoring students in the nursing program for substance abuse.

A major portion of student learning in nursing education occurs in clinical settings with direct student: patient care. Students have the responsibility to practice without undue risk to themselves or others and to maintain fitness for duty throughout all clinical experiences.

The right of patients and the public to safe nursing practice supersedes the student’s learning needs.

All applicants to the nursing program at the University of Pittsburgh at Titusville must submit to testing for the use of illegal drugs for the purpose of admission into the nursing program. Further, a student may be tested at random throughout the course of their nursing education should a faculty member access and make professional judgments with respect to a student’s fitness for safe practice during clinical experiences.

1) Applicants must first complete the consent form: “Consent to Testing for the Use of Illegal Drugs and Release of Information”.

2) Applicants and students must agree to submit for testing for the use of illegal drugs within the time frame specified. Failure to do so will result in immediate revocation of an offer of admission to the nursing program or expulsion.

3) Applicants and students must agree to the release of the test results to the Director of the Nursing Program.

4) Test results indicating the presence of illegal drugs shall result in the revocation of an offer of admission to the nursing program or expulsion.

5) The applicant or student will be notified in writing of the revocation of the offer of admission or expulsion from the nursing program and the reason by the Director.

6) If the test results indicate the presence of a legally prescribed, appropriately administered controlled substance/drug, the applicant will be so advised and given the opportunity to provide evidence that he/she has been legally prescribed to take the controlled substance/drug at the time of the testing. The Director will take this evidence into consideration when making the decision about the applicant’s or student’s status.
CONSENT TO TESTING FOR THE USE OF ILLEGAL DRUGS
AND RELEASE OF INFORMATION FORM

Student Name:

As an applicant for a position of student nurse with University of Pittsburgh at Titusville, nursing program, I hereby consent to a test for the presence of illegally used substances in my body. I understand that if test results are positive I shall not be considered further for the nursing program.

I acknowledge that after admission into the nursing program this testing will again be scheduled before the Fall semester of my second year and may occur at random throughout my enrollment. I also acknowledge that should I refuse to be tested in accordance with the stated policies, or if I interfere with the test, I will not be admitted to the nursing program or automatically suspended from the nursing program.

The results of my testing performed by Workers Care or other appropriate entity will be released to the Director of the Nursing Program and agree to hold harmless from any such releases provided hereby.

Student Signature__________________________________ Date_________________

Please return all results to: Patricia McClain, MSN, RN
Director of the Nursing Program
University of Pittsburgh at Titusville
504 E. Main Street, PO Box 287
Titusville, PA 16354

See related Policy # S – 6 Substance Abuse.

http://www.upt.pitt.edu/policies